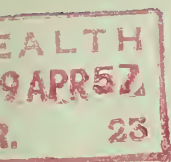


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EAST GRINSTEAD  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

THE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

The Medical Officer of Health

FOR

THE YEAR 1955





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**EAST GRINSTEAD  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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**THE  
ANNUAL REPORT  
OF  
The Medical Officer of Health  
FOR  
THE YEAR 1955**

# STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

## Medical Officer of Health

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER, EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

JOHN PETRIE

M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

## Sanitary Inspector

WM. H. DUNHAM, M.B.E.,

CERT.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Cert. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods

## Clerk to the Department

M. STRIPP

## Rodent Officer

H. T. W. HEARD

# EAST GRINSTEAD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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## Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1955

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE EAST GRINSTEAD  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1955.

The report is prepared as indicated in Ministry of Health Circular No. 17/55 dated 23rd November, 1955.

The Crude Death Rate is 13.34 as compared with 13.11 for 1954.

The Standardised Death Rate is 10.27 as compared with 11.7 for England and Wales. The Standardised Death Rate is obtained by the application of a "comparability factor" making allowance for the age and sex distribution of the district for comparison with England and Wales as a whole.

The Infantile Mortality Rate is 20.98 which compares with 25.81 for the previous year, and with 24.9 for England and Wales. (There were four deaths of infants under one year in 1954, and three in 1955.)

The Birth Rate is 11.7 compared with 13.11 in 1954.

The Standardised Birth Rate is 12.52 compared with 15.0 for England and Wales.

There were no deaths of children under the age of two years from Diarrhoea, Enteritis or from Maternal Causes.

No deaths occurred from Scarlet Fever, Typhoid Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough or Measles.

For the tenth successive year no case of diphtheria was notified.

### Food Poisoning.

Three cases were notified. The causal organism was salmonella enteriditis, var. jena.

### Diphtheria Immunisation.

The immunisation rate of all children in the district up to fifteen years of age is 94.32%; of the children attending school it is 98.62%.

### Smallpox Vaccination.

During the year the numbers of vaccinations carried out at Clinics or reported by general practitioners were: Under 1 year—141; 1 to 4 years—8; 5 to 14 years—7; 15 years and over—1; making a total of 157.

The numbers of re-vaccinations were: Under 1 year—nil; 1 to 4 years—1; 5 to 14 years—6; 15 years and over—61; making a total of 68.

## Clean Food Byelaws.

Most food shops in the town continue to improve their methods of displaying and handling food. Many, away from the main shopping centre, are attracting custom by raising the standard of service and hygiene, sometimes at considerable cost in fitments and improvement of premises.

Where a high standard has been achieved, either voluntarily or under pressure from this department, the shopkeeper has always acclaimed the resulting improvement in trade.

The discriminating housewife enjoys the service and safety she demands; others are likely to get what they deserve.

The next objective is the elimination of the window display of uncovered cooked food; and only the customer can convince many shopkeepers that this is an unnecessary and dangerous practice.

During the year statutory action was required in only one case, that of a street trader displaying fruit and vegetables on unprotected stalls in the forecourt of a disused building, in the main thoroughfare. The stalls had no washing or sanitary facilities and no means of disposal of refuse and waste. A fine was imposed by the Magistrates, and the trader decided to leave the town.

The very unsatisfactory conditions must have been obvious to patrons, and should have made such action unnecessary. Yet the illusion of "cheap" food blinded many to the danger of dirt and disease. The price tickets in neighbouring shops often showed that no comparison could have been made, even for goods of much higher quality. The cult of the glib tongued street trader dies hard.

## Housing.

The Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, a measure designed to widen the scope of Housing Policy, came into operation on 30th August, 1954. As a result of this Act, the Minister of Housing and Local Government instructed Local Authorities to submit proposals for dealing with unfit houses in their districts, these proposals to include schemes for future slum clearance.

The proposals submitted by this Council included an estimate of 103 houses out of a total of 3671 in the district, which in the next five years should be dealt with under Section 11 of The Housing Act, 1936 (either by demolition or with an undertaking from the owner not to relet a property until made fit for habitation), or under Section 25 of The Housing Act, 1936 (those houses included in clearance areas).

Applications for Improvement Grants in respect of existing houses received during 1955 were 18, as compared with 4 in 1954.

The Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 permits landlords to raise controlled rents where houses are in a good state of repair. A tenant who does not consider the state of the house justifies the increase may apply to the Council for a certificate of disrepair to restrain the landlord from applying the increase in rent.

Applications for certificates of disrepair have been few.

Two certificates were granted in 1955 in respect of applications made in 1954, and no applications were received in 1955.

JOHN PETRIE,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

# STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

(For comparison the figures for 1954 are shown in brackets)

Area ... ..	6,597 acres	
Registrar General's Estimated Population ...	12,220	(11,820)
Density of Population per acre ... ..	1.85	(1.79)
Rateable Value ... ..	236,743	(£117,796)
Sum represented by a 1d. rate ... ..	£571	(£470)
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population ... ..	11.7	(13.11)
Standardised Birth Rate ... ..	12.52	(14.03)
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 Population ... ..	13.34	(13.11)
Standardised Death Rate ... ..	10.27	(10.09)
Infantile Mortality Rate ... ..	20.98	(25.81)
Number of Inhabited Dwellings ... ..	3,850	(3,706)

## VITAL STATISTICS

### Births

LIVE BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate ... ..	60	80	140
Illegitimate ... ..	3	—	3
Total Live Births ... ..	63	80	143
Birth Rate per 1,000 Live Births ... ..	11.7		
Comparability Factor ... ..	1.07		
Standardised Birth Rate ... ..	12.52		

STILL BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate ... ..	2	1	3
Illegitimate ... ..	—	—	—
Total Still Births ... ..	2	1	3
Rate per 1,000 of the total Births ... ..	20.98		

Deaths	Male	Female	Total
	77	86	163
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population ... ..	13.34		
Comparability Factor ... ..	0.77		
Standardised Death Rate ... ..	10.27		

Infantile Mortality	Male	Female	Total
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age ... ..	1	1	2
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age ... ..	1	2	3
INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS ... ..	20.98		



# VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEARS 1940-1955

YEAR	Estim- ated Popu- lation	Number of Births							Birth Rate	Number of Deaths				Death Rate	Infant's Deaths			Infant Death Rate	Natural increase of Births over Deaths
		Legitimate			Illegitimate					M	F	Total	M		F	Total			
		M	F	Total	M	F	Total												
1940	10,100	73	51	124	3	1	4	11.84	57	80	137	12.67	2	5	7	54.59	— 9		
1941	12,750	89	72	161	8	9	17	13.85	60	85	145	11.37	2	2	4	28.1	33		
1942	10,720	74	81	155	5	7	12	15.58	54	73	127	11.8	2	3	5	29.94	40		
1943	10,280	87	79	166	7	13	20	18.09	62	108	170	16.5	2	2	4	21.5	16		
1944	9,648	68	81	149	15	14	29	18.44	73	74	147	15.23	2	3	5	28.09	31		
1945	9,910	57	65	122	11	4	15	13.82	68	78	146	14.73	4	3	7	51.09	— 9		
1946	10,580	88	94	182	7	5	12	18.34	59	56	115	10.87	6	2	8	41.24	79		
1947	10,740	106	103	209	4	7	11	20.48	50	63	113	10.52	1	1	2	9.09	107		
1948	10,840	69	84	153	7	4	11	15.13	53	62	115	10.61	—	3	3	18.29	49		
1949	11,000	74	83	157	3	3	6	14.82	78	92	170	15.45	1	2	3	18.41	— 7		
1950	11,060	78	81	159	6	5	11	15.37	68	59	127	11.84	2	1	3	17.65	43		
1951	11,170	76	59	135	2	7	9	12.88	63	86	149	13.34	2	2	4	27.78	— 5		
1952	11,310	63	59	122	2	3	5	11.23	65	67	132	11.67	3	—	3	23.62	— 5		
1953	11,360	72	41	113	1	3	4	10.29	58	102	160	14.08	3	2	5	42.74	—43		
1954	11,820	77	71	148	3	4	7	13.11	69	86	155	13.11	4	—	4	25.81	—		
1955	12,220	60	80	140	3	—	3	11.7	77	86	163	13.34	3	—	3	20.98	—20		



# CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE EAST GRINSTEAD URBAN DISTRICT

	Male	Female
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	1	—
Tuberculosis, Other	—	—
Syphilitic Disease	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
Measles	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	2	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	2	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	—
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	—	—
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	8	6
Diabetes	1	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	—	—
Coronary Disease, Angina	12	15
Hypertension with Heart Disease	13	10
Other Heart Disease	—	1
Other Circulatory Disease	7	18
Influenza	11	5
Pneumonia	—	—
Bronchitis	5	3
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	3	2
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	—	4
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	—	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	1
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	1	—
Congenital Malformations	—	—
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	—	—
Motor Vehicle Accidents	6	11
All Other Accidents	—	—
Suicide	2	2
Homicide and Operations of War	—	1
ALL CAUSES	77	86

## MORTALITY IN AGE GROUPS

AGE GROUPS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Under 1 year	1	2	3
1—4	—	—	—
5—14	—	1	1
15—24	—	—	—
25—34	—	—	—
35—44	—	1	1
45—54	7	3	10
55—64	7	8	15
65—74	19	18	37
75 and over	43	53	96
TOTALS	77	86	163

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The following cases of infectious disease were notified during the  
year 1955

DISEASE						Cases Notified	Cases to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	16	2	—
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	4	—	—
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	323	3	—
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	8	—	8
Food Poisoning ...	...	...	...	...	...	3	—	—

## CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN AGE GROUPS

DISEASE						Age Groups									
						0	1	3	5	10	15	25	45	65	Total
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	12	4	—	—	—	—	16
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	4
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	4	39	64	191	20	1	3	1	—	323
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	1	3	1	—	—	2	1	8
Food Poisoning ...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	3
TOTALS ...	...	...	...	...	...	4	39	66	209	25	2	3	5	1	354

## TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during the year 1955

AGE GROUPS						NEW CASES				DEATHS			
						Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
						M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
6—15... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
16—25 ...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
26—35 ...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
36—45 ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
46—55 ...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
56—65 ...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—

## TUBERCULOSIS

### Summary of New Cases and Mortality during the Years 1940—1955

YEAR	NEW CASES					DEATHS				
	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>		<i>Total</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>		<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
1940	7	6	1	—	14	2	2	—	1	5
1941	2	2	1	1	6	1	2	—	—	3
1942	3	3	—	2	8	2	1	—	—	3
1943	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
1944	5	3	1	2	11	—	—	—	—	—
1945	3	3	2	1	9	1	1	1	—	3
1946	3	2	3	1	9	—	—	—	1	1
1947	1	2	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
1948	3	2	—	—	5	2	1	—	—	3
1949	4	2	—	—	6	2	1	—	—	3
1950	6	5	—	—	11	5	—	1	—	6
1951	12	5	—	—	17	—	—	1	—	1
1952	6	2	—	—	8	2	—	—	—	2
1953	3	4	—	—	7	—	1	—	—	1
1954	3	3	—	—	6	—	1	—	—	1
1955	2	4	1	1	8	1	—	—	—	1

## IMMUNISATION

### Summary of Immunisation in East Grinstead Urban District at 31st December, 1955

ALL CHILDREN, INCLUDING THOSE ATTENDING SCHOOL FROM OTHER DISTRICTS

*On Register    No. Immunised*

Under 1 year	157	51	32.48%
1—4 years ...	617	579	93.84%
5—15 years ...	2094	2068	98.76%
0—15 years ...	<u>2868</u>	<u>2698</u>	94.07%

#### EAST GRINSTEAD CHILDREN ONLY

Under 1 year	157	51	32.48%
1—4 years ...	617	579	93.84%
5—15 years ...	1885	1859	98.62%
0—15 years ...	<u>2659</u>	<u>2489</u>	94.32%

## CLEAN FOOD SUPERVISION

(1) Number of food premises in the area, by type of business :

Cafes ... ..	12	General Stores ... ..	21
Bakehouses ... ..	7	Public Houses ... ..	7
Hotels ... ..	4	Confectioners ... ..	19
Grocers ... ..	15	Greengrocers ... ..	15
Wine Merchants ... ..	4	Butchers ... ..	11
Corn Dealers ... ..	2	Chemists ... ..	6
Wayside Greengrocery Stores	2	Fishshops ... ..	6
Clubs ... ..	5	Dairies (Milk Depots) ...	3
Milkshops ... ..	2		

(2) Number of food premises, by type, registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, or under local Acts, and the number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 :

Sale of Ice Cream ... ..	47
Preparation of Sausages ... ..	10
Preparation of Potted Food ... ..	Nil
Preparation of Pressed Food ... ..	Nil
Preparation of Pickled Food ... ..	1
Preparation of Preserved Food, including Fried Fish	4
Dairies ... ..	3

(3) Number of inspections of registered food premises 169

## LABORATORY SERVICES

The services of the Public Health Laboratory at the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton (Telephone : Brighton 23506) are available to this Department and to Medical Practitioners in the district for the investigation of infectious disease.

The Laboratory is in a position to accept work such as the bacteriological and biological examination of milk, water, ice-cream foods, and pathological specimens. Laboratory investigations of outbreaks of communicable disease, including the detection and elimination of carriers and other reservoirs of infection, are also carried out.

Containers may be obtained from the Laboratory or from this Department and specimens may be sent to the Laboratory *via* the Southdown Bus Company. Collections are made at the Brighton terminus at 2.30 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. (except on Sundays; on Saturdays only one collection is made at 12.30 p.m.).

Specimens for the Bacteriologist may be left at the Public Health Department, Council Offices, East Court, before 1 p.m., and will be placed on a bus in time to reach Brighton for the 4.30 p.m. collection.

The Laboratory is open to receive urgent specimens between 10 a.m. and 12 noon on Sundays, and in cases of extreme urgency during non-working hours, the Director of the Public Health Laboratory, Dr. J. E. Jameson, may be telephoned at Brighton 56960.

The following prophylactics are held at the Laboratory for issue free of charge to Medical Practitioners :

Vaccine Lymph.

Adult serum for measles prophylaxis.

Other types of vaccines, anti-toxins and serums are not held, but information regarding them may be obtained from the Director.

## WATER SUPPLY

Water for the greater part of East Grinstead is supplied by the South Eastern Gas Board. A few houses on the northern boundary at Felbridge are supplied by the East Surrey Water Company.

The South Eastern Gas Board have deep wells at Hackenden, Placelands and Forest Row, which together with the Medway Intake at Forest Row, comprise the four sources of supply.

The raw water is aerated, subjected to sedimentation, mechanical filtration, automatic superchlorination, and finally before going into supply, to de-chlorination, to give a free residual of 0.1 p.p.m. of chlorine. A consistently safe and palatable water supply is thus assured.

Water from each supply is subjected to laboratory examination monthly. Samples from each source are submitted to the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene by the South Eastern Gas Board for chemical and bacteriological examination. Four samples per year, taken from various points on the main supply throughout the area, are submitted by the East Grinstead Urban and Uckfield Rural District Councils for bacteriological examination.

The reports on all samples submitted during the year have indicated that the quality of the water supply to the area has been of a high standard both chemically and bacteriologically.

It was not necessary to restrict the supply at any time throughout the year.

Approximately 3,809 dwelling houses have a piped water supply. Of these, 9 houses catering for 22 persons, are supplied by means of standpipes. It is estimated that 62 premises are supplied by piped estate supplies and private wells.

## HOUSING

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :
 

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	153
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	263
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932	109
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose...	122
(3)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	28
(4)		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	51
2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices :
 

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ...	34
---	----
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :
 

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	1
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice :	
(a)	By owners ...	1
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil



(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a)	By owners ... ..	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	Nil
(c)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1)	Number of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling houses unfit for habitation ... ..	2
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made... ..	Nil
(3)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	Nil
(4)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted from owners, Section 11 (3) :	
(a)	To render the house fit for human habitation ...	Nil
(b)	As to usage other than for human habitation... ..	2
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	Nil
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	Nil
4.	Housing Act, 1935—Overcrowding.	
(a)	(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... ..	Nil
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ... ..	Nil
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ... ..	Nil
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ..	Nil
(c)	(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..	Nil
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	Nil
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken steps for abatement of overcrowding ... ..	Nil
5.	Number of New Houses erected during the year 1955 :	
(a)	State aided :	
	(i) By Local Authority ... ..	42
	(ii) By private enterprise (Public Utility Societies, etc.)	—
(b)	Without State aid ... ..	152
	Total ... ..	194

## HOUSING

The total number of permanent houses completed by the Council during the year was 42, all on the Blackwell Farm Estate.

The number of families housed by the Council during the year was 48, and at 31st December, 1955 the number of applicants on the Council's waiting list was 230, a reduction of 73 on the previous year's total.

One hundred and fifty-two houses were built by private builders.

## THE HOUSING ACT, 1949, Part II (and Amending Legislation).

The technical operation of the Improvement Grants scheme of the Housing Acts remains delegated to this Department.

The following table summarises the work during the year.

	<i>Improvements</i>		<i>Conversion</i>	
	<i>Owner/ Occupied.</i>	<i>Tenanted.</i>	<i>Owner/ Occupied.</i>	<i>Tenanted.</i>
Enquiries made... ..	18	14	—	1
Approval refused by Tenant ...	—	1	2	1
Applications not approved by Council	—	—	—	1
Applications approved by Council ...	11	5	2	—
Completed by 31/12/55 ... ..	7	3	1	—
Total of Grants Approved ... ..	£1778/3/0	£1433/12/6	£500	—

The works carried out include :—

Provision of damp-proof courses	...	...	...	...	9
" " electric light	...	...	...	...	6
" " piped water inside the building	...	...	...	...	2
" " hot water for domestic purposes	...	...	...	...	16
" " internal water closet	...	...	...	...	13
" " bath in separate room	...	...	...	...	12
" " sink and suitable arrangements for disposal of waste water	...	...	...	...	11
" " proper drainage system	...	...	...	...	10
" " adequate facilities for heating...	...	...	...	...	11
" " satisfactory facilities for storing, preparing and cooking food	...	...	...	...	12
" " proper storage of fuel	...	...	...	...	12
Addition bedroom to accommodate family	...	...	...	...	1

## AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Ambulance Service in East Grinstead is as follows :—

Number of Ambulances	...	Two.
Ambulance Station	...	Phillips Garage, 219b London Road, East Grinstead.
Telephone Number	...	East Grinstead 488.
Area served	...	East Grinstead, Forest Row, Hartfield, West Hoathly.

A day and night service is available for the conveyance of patients from within the county of East Sussex, who are unfit to travel either by public transport or by car. Calls are accepted from doctors, midwives, and hospitals



in the area. Cases of accident or sudden emergency are the only calls accepted direct from members of the public.

The ambulances are operated by the British Red Cross Society, by arrangement with the East Sussex County Council.

Cases of infectious disease are removed to isolation hospital in the above ambulances. After conveyance of infectious patients, the ambulances are disinfected before returning to normal service.

Patients able to travel by car are conveyed, on calls from doctors, midwives or hospitals, by the Hospital Car Service. Details of this service are given below.

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### HOSPITAL CAR SERVICE

Area Transport Officer	...	Miss K. V. Byrne, 11a High Street, East Grinstead.
Telephone Number	... ..	East Grinstead 1318.
Area Served	... ..	East Grinstead Urban District, Uckfield Rural District, Cuckfield Rural District (Northern half).
Office Hours	... ..	Mondays to Fridays inclusive : 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

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### SANITARY SUPERVISION

#### Housing Inspections

Inspections made under Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	191
Inspections made under Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	77
Housing Act—Improvement Grants	...	...	...	...	164

#### Other Inspections

Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	4
Meatshops and Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	178
Fishshops	...	...	...	...	...	45
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	12
Other Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	168
Ice-cream Regulations	...	...	...	...	...	9
Public Houses and Hotels	...	...	...	...	...	32
Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	157
Shop Acts	...	...	...	...	...	1
Petroleum Acts	...	...	...	...	...	27
Factory Acts (not included in other totals)	...	...	...	...	...	30
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	39
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	14
House Letting Sub-committee	...	...	...	...	...	19
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	...	23
Inspections under Pest Destruction Acts	...	...	...	...	...	2,379
Other Miscellaneous Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	35
Complaints	...	...	...	...	...	50

# SUMMARY OF MAIN DEFECTS ABATED IN TERMS OF PREMISES

Drains amended and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Water-closets repaired, lighted and ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Water-closets provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Flushing apparatus repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Roofs repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Eaves, gutters and downspouts renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Dampness <i>via</i> walls abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
House floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Chimneys repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Fireplaces repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Water supplies amended and provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cesspools emptied	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Sewage disposal plants provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Commercial kitchens cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Premises cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sinks or wash basins provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Baths provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

## INSPECTION OF FOOD

During the year 451 visits were made to food premises, and below are details of the foodstuffs voluntarily surrendered as being unfit for human consumption.

### TINNED FOODSTUFFS—

Meat	...	...	40 tins	Cream	...	...	2 tins
Fruit	...	...	26 tins	Fish	...	...	9 tins
Vegetables	...	...	31 tins	Ham	...	...	1 tin
Milk	...	...	6 tins	Paste	...	...	2 tins
Golden Syrup	...	...	1 tin	Cheese Spread	...	...	2 tins
Jam	...	...	7 jars				

OTHER :	Quaker Oats	...	...	Mouldy	...	...	1 lb.
	Cheese	...	...	Mouldy	...	...	10 lbs.
	Cheese Trimmings	...	...	Mouldy	...	...	64 lbs.
	Prunes	...	...	Mouldy	...	...	28 lbs.
	Ham	...	...	Decomposition	...	...	24 lbs.
	Sausages	...	...	Mouldy—sour	...	...	31 lbs.
	Flour	...	...	Damp and mouldy	...	...	9 lbs.
	Margarine	...	...	Sour	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.
FISH ...	...	...	...	Decomposition	...	...	19 $\frac{1}{4}$ stones

MEAT :	Beef	...	...	Heated, bone taint and decomposition	...	...	145 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
	Mutton and Lamb	...	...	Abcess, distomatosis and bacterial necrosis	...	...	5 lbs. leg and 14 livers
	Pork Carcasses	...	...	Systemic tuberculosis and uraemia	...	...	236 lbs.
	Leg	...	...	Oedema and bruised	...	...	74 lbs.
	Livers	...	...	Cirrhosis	...	...	4
	Other	...	...	Tuberculosis, abscess & pneumonia	...	...	78 lbs.
Bacon	...	...	...	Decomposition	...	...	231 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.

## MILK

The following dealers' licences authorising the use of special designations were in force during the year ended 31st December, 1955.

<i>Special Designation</i>	<i>No. of Licences</i>
Pasteurised ... ..	3
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) ... ..	4
Tuberculin Tested ... ..	1

## CARCASSES OF ANIMALS INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	<i>Cattle ex Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed ... ..	nil	nil	62	244	458
Number inspected ... ..	nil	nil	62	244	458
All Diseases except Tuberculosis: Whole Carcase condemned ...	nil	nil	nil	nil	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	nil	nil	nil	22	12
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	nil	nil	nil	9.01	2.84
Tuberculosis only : Whole carcasses condemned ...	nil	nil	nil	nil	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	nil	nil	nil	nil	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	nil	nil	nil	nil	0.88

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937

During the year 90 inspections were made under the Factories Act, 1937.

In no case was statutory action found necessary.

1. **INSPECTIONS** for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector).

<i>Premises</i>	<i>No. on Register</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority ...	33	35	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	47	55	2	—
(3) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) ... ..	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ... ..	80	90	2	—

## 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

PARTICULARS	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases where prosecutions were instituted
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>Referred by H.M. Inspector</i>	
Want of Cleanliness ... ..	4	4	—	—	—
Overcrowding ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors ...	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—					
(a) Insufficient ... ..	—	1	—	2	—
(b) Unsuitable or Defective ...	—	3	—	3	—
(c) Not separate for Sexes ...	1	1	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-workers) ... ..	—	2	—	2	—
TOTALS ... ..	6	12	—	8	—

## RODENT CONTROL

The Council employ one full-time Rodent Officer on Pest Destruction.

During the year 46 complaints were received. 2,379 visits under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, were made and 64 infestations treated.

Regular inspections have been made at the Durkins Road, Eden Vale, Blackwell Pond, Brambletye Entrance and Shovelstrode Lane refuse tips, housing estates and other Council properties.

Infestation of 18 premises was found as a result of systematic surveys which are made throughout the district.

A 10% test of sewers was completed in March to the satisfaction of the Inspector from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

A nominal charge for rodent destruction is made to householders. Business premises are charged with the actual cost of treatment in accordance with the agreement between the Council and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. No charge is made for subsequent inspection to ensure that premises remain free from rats.

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## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

This work is carried out by the Engineer and Surveyor's Department.

House refuse is collected weekly. Trade refuse is collected at the request of the trader concerned and charges at cost plus 15% are made.

Refuse is disposed of by tipping at Shovelstrode. Before being covered newly-tipped refuse is treated with gammexane insecticide to prevent breeding of flies.

Frequent inspections of the tip have been made to ascertain possible nuisance caused by rodents and flies.

## EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL WELFARE CENTRES

The following table shows the clinics held at the East Sussex County Council's Welfare Centre, Moat View, Moat Road, East Grinstead :—

### *CLINICS*

### *DAYS AND TIMES*

#### **Dental**

MOTHERS AND CHILDREN  
UNDER 5 YEARS

... By appointment.

**Child Guidance** ... By appointment.

**Orthopaedic** ... Monday and Thursday mornings by appointment.

DOCTORS' SESSIONS ... By appointment.

#### **Diphtheria Immunisation**

**and Vaccination** ... 2nd Thursday each month—2.15 p.m.

**Schick-Test** ... 4th & 5th Thursdays each month—2.15 p.m.

#### **Ante Natal**

DISTRICT NURSES ... 1st, 2nd & 4th Tuesdays—2.15 p.m.

CUCKFIELD HOSPITAL  
PATIENTS ... 3rd Wednesday each month—2.15 p.m.

**Infant Welfare** ... Every Monday (except 5th Monday in month)—2 to 4 p.m.

DOCTORS' SESSIONS ... 2nd & 3rd Mondays—2 to 4 p.m.

**Speech Therapy** ... Every Tuesday—By appointment.

The following Clinic is held at St. Dunstan's Hall, Maypole Road, Ashurst Wood :—

#### **Infant Welfare**

WEIGHING SESSION ONLY ... 4th Tuesday every month—Afternoons.

**Chest Clinic** ... **At Queen Victoria Hospital**  
Every Thursday—2 p.m.

